

**METHOD AND APPARATUS  
FOR STORAGE NETWORK MANAGEMENT**

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A storage service manager facilitates an operator's task for managing large-scale storage facilities. Allocating access paths on the storage network is accomplished by the use agent programs which interface to various components comprising a data path from the client to the storage system. The agent programs hide various vendor-specific and technology-dependent aspects of the storage network components from the user.

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